

Theme: The humble nature of Christ's birth points to the great humility of the Incarnation, where God became man to save us.

## I. Intro – Acura Commercial

- A. "In a season marked by overindulging and overspending"
- B. Gingerbread houses in style of 60's modern architecture, double vented quad chambered chesnut roaster - all for self
- C. Of course solution - buy a \$50,000 car - crazy
- D. All this stands in stark contrast to original Christmas
- E. Christ comes in great humility - for others

## II. The Humility of Christ's Birth

- A. Humble background: Parents and place
  - 1. Parents Joseph and Mary (vv4-5)
    - a. Simple people harried by empire concerns
    - b. Carpenter and young rural woman
  - 2. From Nazareth in Galilee (v4)
  - 3. A place of low reputation (John 1:46)
- B. Humble birthplace: Bethlehem
  - 1. Went to Bethlehem for census (2:4-7)
  - 2. Not Rome, or even Jerusalem - Bethlehem
- C. Humble lodgings: the manger
  - 1. Laid in a manger (v7)

- 2. A place for cattle and their food - not a baby
- 3. Have you ever been in a barn?
- 4. No room in the inn (v7)
- 5. Not poor planning by God - humility

### D. Humble guests - the shepherds

- 1. Shepherds terrified by angel and glory (vv8-9)
- 2. Angels message of good news of great joy (vv10-12)
- 3. Message "to you" - they are chosen witnesses
- 4. Shepherds had once been held in honor
- 5. David and the Lord (Psalm 23:1)
- 6. By this time were often despised; lowest of peasants
- 7. But God has chosen them to receive Good News
- 8. But the message is "for all" (vv10-12)
- 9. They will go & tell others as God's witnesses
- 10. Like women after the resurrection

## III. The Glorious Message of Christmas

- A. The message - glory to God (vv13-14)
  - 1. This Child of such humility brings glory to God
  - 2. This Child allows us to bring glory to God

B. The message - peace to mankind (vv13-14)

2 Corinthians 13:14

1. This Child has come that we might have peace
2. Peace is offered to all - regardless of station
3. Peace - shalom - all is right - whole, good, peace
4. Glory to God and good for us go together

**IV. Applying the Word**

A. Have you received the peace offered?

1. Christ has come to offer peace
2. The humility of Christmas shows none are too low
3. The humility of Christmas shows none are too far
4. God has gone to every length to offer peace
5. Receive His peace today

B. Offer the peace of God to others

1. No one is too far for God's grace
2. No ones problems are too big for Christ
3. Like the shepherds - share the good news
4. Does not matter the response - share with joy

The Humility of Christmas

Luke 2:1-7  
Advent Readings  
December 20, 2010  
Prayer

1 Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. 2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit. 3 But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. 4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. 5 I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. He who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may be edified. 1 Corinthians 14:1-5